Pennsylvania NRCS Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program Application Check List - 2006

(This checklist should be attached to the proposal when submitted.)

Evaluation Information Entity	Please provide the page number and paragraph where this information is located in the proposal or attachments.
1) Any non-federal government entity (including a farmland protection board or land resource council established under state law or any non-government organization (NGO). NGO's must meet all of the following: a) Organized principally for preservation of land for recreation, open space, historically important land areas and structures, and natural wildlife habitat b) Operated exclusively for charitable, religious, or educational purposes, with no part of its net earnings paid to any private shareholder or individual, etc. c) Normally receives more than one third of its support in each taxable year form gifts, grants contribution, or memberships	Circle Yes or NO
2) Have an established a farmland protection program -Attach a copy of your program to keep on file or update.	Check if attached
3) Entity's Policies and procedures for acquiring, monitoring, enforcing and title appraisal and review.	Page #: Paragraph:
4) Entity's history of acquiring, monitoring, maintaining, and enforcing conservation easements.	Page #: Paragraph:
5) Easements Currently Held Provide the number of easements currently held along with the purpose.	Page #: Paragraph:
Funding Have sufficient funds available for easement acquisition (see 519.52 for payment requirements). Provide the amount, source and date funds are available	Page #: Paragraph:
6) Staff capacity or formal agreement with other entities dedicated to monitoring and easement stewardship? Describe the number of paid and volunteer staff available to perform these functions. Distinguish among full-time and part-time staff. Count only persons available to perform monitoring and stewardship activities. Provide an estimate of FTEs (full-time equivalents) available. Fyi, consider 2080 staff hours as one FTE.	Page #: Paragraph:
7) Partnership Agreements Have staff capacity or formal agreement with other entities dedicated to monitoring and easement stewardship	Page #: Paragraph:

Evaluation Information Parcel Eligibility	Please provide the page number and paragraph where this information is located in the proposal or attachments.
1)Owned by individual or entity that does not exceed the Adjusted Gross Income Limitation (see CPM, Part 508) or until the fee simple title has been transferred to a private landowner a) Landowners that have an average adjusted gross income limitation exceeding \$2.5 million for the three tax years immediately preceding the year the conservation easement is signed are not eligible to receive program benefits or payments. However, an exemption is provided in cases where 75 percent of the adjusted gross income limitation is derived from farming, ranching, or forestry operations. For additional information on the Adjusted Gross Income Limitation policy, consult CPM, Part 508.	Circle Yes or NO Check if documentation is attached
2) Written pending offer (ex: a letter form the board) -At a minimum, the documentation must demonstrate intent and presence of a willing seller and willing buyer.	Check if included
3) Conservation Compliance a) The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 requires FRPP participants to be in compliance with wetland conservation and highly erodible land provisions. Therefore, if a landowner is found out of compliance, the landowner is ineligible for FRPP or other USDA payments for that crop year and all subsequent years that the person remains out of compliance. For more information, consult the National Food Security Act Manual.	Circle Yes or NO Check if documentation is attached
4) Farmland: At least 50% of offered parcel must be composed of soils designated by the NRCS as Prime, Unique, or ImportantStatewide. a) Soils: Provide the percent of prime farmland, statewide, and unique soils. Parcel must contains at least 50 percent of some combination of prime, unique, and/or farmland of Statewide or local importance OR b) Historical or Archaeological Resources (1) Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or (2) Formally determined to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or (3) Listed in the State or Tribal Register of Historic Places. Provide documentation, if applicable, to receive points in ranking. If claiming historical, or archaeological resources it needs to be addressed in the easement language.	Circle Yes or NO Page #: Paragraph: Page #: Paragraph: Check if documentation is attached
5) Protection List any current restrictions. (ex: GRP& WRP easement acres are not eligible under FRPP but can border proposed acres.)	Page #: Paragraph:
6) Development pressure Describe	Page #: Paragraph:
7) Land Use Describe land uses. Provide the percentage of crop, hay, and pasture land. Land enrolled in USDA programs that hold crop field status (ex: cp 1&2).	Page #: Paragraph:
8) Proximity to protected farmland by permanent easements List land located within 2 miles of the easement.	Page #: Paragraph:

9) Proximity to other protected land by permanent easements List land located within 2 miles of the easement.	Page #: Paragraph:
10) Conservation Plan Describe the status of your conservation plan. A plan at the RMS level must be developed before closing. The plan must cover all easement acres.	Page #: Paragraph:
11) Viability of agricultural operations Describe the type of agricultural operation. Provide information on the buildings, structures, etc. Does the farm has a succession plan (formal)?	Page #: Paragraph: Check if plan is attached
12) Easement Provide draft easement, or a description of easement terms. Higher consideration will be given to plans with a draft easement.	Page #: Paragraph: Check if draft easement is attached
13) Map - Location of the parcel(s) Recent, dated aerial photos of the farm and surrounding area. Please include tax map, topo map and soils map with the parcel(s) identified.	Page #: Paragraph: Check if maps are attached